

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KINSHA 03480 141222Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

ACDA-07 AID-05 PC-01 SCA-01 SCS-03 A-01 OPR-02

/105 W

-----141228Z 069636 /21

O 141130Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2992

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 3480

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MOPS, CG, ZA

SUBJ: ALLEGED ZAIRIAN BOMBING OF ZAMIBAN TERRITORY

REF: A) KINSHASA 3381, B) STATE 82045

1. DURING MEETING WITH MOBUTU LAST NIGHT I ALLUDED TO REPORTS OF RECENT BOMBINGS OF ZAMBIAN TERRITORY BY ZAIRIAN PLANES. MOBUTU SAID THAT HE HAD SENT HIS AMBASSADOR-AT-LARGE, LENGEMA, TO LUSAKA EXPRESSLY TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER. MOBUTU NEITHER CONFIRMED NOR DENIED AERIAL ATTACKS HAD ACTUALLY TAKEN PLACE, ALTHOUGH HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT GOZ HAD RECEIVED INTELLIGENCE JUST PRIOR TO DATES OF ALLEGED ATTACKS INDICATING HOSTILE FORCES FROM ANGOLA WERE TRANSITING ZAMBIA EN ROUTE TOWARD KOLWEZI.

2. I ADDED THAT ANY SUCH AIR STRIKES NATURALLY CONCERNED US, NOT ONLY FROM THE STANDPOINT OF RISKING WIDENING THE CONFLICT BUT ALSO FOR THE MORE IMMEDIATE REASON THAT THERE ARE APPARENTLY A NUMBER OF AMERICAN CITIZENS RESIDING IN THE AREA REPORTEDLY ATTACKED.

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IT WAS ALSO EVIDENT THAT SUCH INCIDENTS COULD COMPLICATE OUR OWN EFFORTS TO ASSIST ZAIRE IN ITS PRESENT EMERGENCY.

3. SINCE WRITING THE ABOVE, I HAVE TALKED THIS MORNING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER NGUZA. HE SAID LENGEMA MET WITH ZAMBIAN OFFICIALS LAST NIGHT AND (A) APOLOGIZED FOR WHATEVER RAIDS THAT MAY HAVE TAKEN PLACE FROM ZAIRE, AND (B) SAID ZAIRIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD

UNDERTAKE INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE FACTS OF THE MATTER. IN
LATTER CONNECTION, NGUZA SAID IT WAS POSSIBLE THAT ANGOLANS
THEMSELVES HAD CONDUCTED RAIDS TO PROVOKE ZAMBIAN AND OTHER
INTERNATIONAL REACTION AGAINST ZAIRE. BECAUSE OF THIS POSSIBILITY,
LENGIMA WAS INSTRUCTED TO STATE PUBLICLY ONLY THAT HE HAD GONE TO
LUSAKA AS A GESTURE OF CONCERN AND GOOD WILL AND TO GIVE ASSURANCES
THAT ZAIRE WOULD INVESTIGATE WHAT ACTUALLY HAPPENED.
CUTLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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